



We work with others to protect the health of the people of Washington State by ensuring safe and reliable drinking water.



THEMES FROM DWAG

September 2021 Expressions
Office of Drinking Water

Process

- During DWAG meeting
 - Breakout sessions
 - Recorded comments
- Review
 - Categorized comments into themes
 - Counted comments for each theme
- Today's Report
 - Highest, major, and other themes

Highest Mentions

- Continuing pandemic impacts
- Workforce depletion, OpCert, and training
- Drinking water contaminant management

Continuing Pandemic Impacts

- Customer disconnection
- Prioritization/continuity of operations
- Local health jurisdiction capacity
- Drinking Water offices unavailable
- Need to return to in-person activities
- Applicability of vaccine mandates

Workforce Depletion, OpCert, and Training

- Lack of available operators
- Use of Operators-in-Training
- Need for more testing locations
- Funding for training future workforce

Drinking water contaminant management

● PFAS

- Initial and long-term costs
- Funding
- Replacement of temporary systems
- Disposal
- Group B systems

● Other

- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)
- UCMR education
- Request: focus on contaminant prevention, not just removal

Other Major Themes

- Aging infrastructure
- Consumer Engagement
- Emergency response
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Regionalization and consolidation
- Water rights

Other Mentioned Themes

- Affordability
- Asset management
- Capacity development
- Cross-connection control
- Environmental justice
- Public right-to-know
- Sanitary surveys
- SMAs
- Source water protection
- Planning
- Water Use Efficiency

Our response

- We hear you.
- Some topics will be addressed today
- We will use this list for future topics
- We will do this again in the future

